



What is Annual Council



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This is the highest legislative body of the Nova Scotia Teachers Union and this is where decisions are made about policy, procedures and the future of the NSTU. As the name suggests, Annual Council is a yearly meeting of the NSTU. It is held during a weekend in late April or May and it brings together the provincial executive, local delegates, RRC chairs, staff officers of the NSTU, committee representatives and representatives from special associations. At any given time there are over 300 people present in the council chamber.

The purpose of the Council is to consider resolutions that have been submitted by; the locals NSTU Locals, Committees, Regional Representative Councils, Professional Associations and the Provincial Executive, and to pass the budget for the upcoming year. There are other areas of business, but those are the two main purposes. Debate is lively and delegates are encouraged to participate.

Resolutions

Resolutions that make it to council are presented one at a time to the delegation and debate is held over each one, then a vote is taken. Delegates receive either an electronic or paper copy of the Council Workbook so they may follow along in chambers. Delegates may speak for or against resolutions or make amendments. Some resolutions have more of a lively debate than others. Voting is done by electronic key pad.



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Delegates

Every local is entitled to send a number of delegates to council based on the number of members in a local. Halifax County Local has the largest delegation, averaging over 40 delegates.

Each delegate is provided hotel accommodation and a meal allowance, plus family care and certain other expenses, at the expense of the provincial NSTU.

In Brief Responsibilities of a delegate:

1. Attend the pre-council meeting
2. Be informed about the resolutions before going to Council
3. Attend and be attentive at all Council sessions
4. Conduct yourself appropriately during all Council activities
5. Notify the local Nominations Committee Chair prior to Council session of your absence.

Council Sessions and Events

Council sessions are Friday evening, and Saturday morning, Saturday afternoon and Sunday morning and afternoon.

There are social events in the evening as well. Traditionally there is a President's Reception on Friday night and our local hosts an event for local members on Saturday night. There are also suites open by various locals where you can go and meet colleagues from around the province.

Dress

Dress for Annual Council is business casual. On Saturday the Halifax County delegation traditionally wear clothing provided by the local to look like a team!

Annual Council is a great opportunity to learn more about the NSTU, be a part of decision making for the NSTU and meet fellow NSTU members from around the province. We encourage you to apply for this rewarding opportunity.

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